

ORIGINAL

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

-----x
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

-v-

SAMUEL ISRAEL III,

Defendant.

:
: INFORMATION

:
: 05 Cr. 1039

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COUNT ONE

(Conspiracy To Commit Investment Adviser Fraud and Mail Fraud)

The United States Attorney charges:

Relevant Persons And Entities

1. At all times relevant to this Information, Bayou Fund LLC, Bayou Accredited Fund, LLC, Bayou Affiliates Fund, LLC, Bayou No Leverage Fund, LLC, and Bayou Superfund, LLC, were hedge funds that had their principal office in Westchester County, New York and, thereafter, Stamford, Connecticut. Bayou Fund Ltd., Bayou Offshore Masterfund Ltd., Bayou Offshore Fund A, Ltd., Bayou Offshore Fund B, Ltd., Bayou Offshore Fund C, Ltd., Bayou Offshore Fund D, Ltd., Bayou Offshore Fund E, Ltd., and Bayou Offshore Fund F, Ltd. were hedge funds organized under the laws of the Cayman Islands. Bayou Management, LLC served as the investment adviser to the Bayou hedge funds (hereafter, collectively referred to as the "Bayou Hedge Funds") from its office in Stamford, Connecticut. Bayou Securities, LLC, a broker-dealer registered with the United States Securities and

Exchange Commission and a member of the National Association of Securities Dealers, acted primarily as a broker for the Bayou Hedge Funds. The Bayou entities will hereafter be referred to collectively as "Bayou."

2. Bayou Fund LLC was formed in or about early 1996 and the other hedge funds were formed thereafter. The Bayou Hedge Funds were formed for the purpose of obtaining contributions from sophisticated investors and earning profits by following an investment strategy of conducting short-term trading of various securities.

3. At all times relevant to this Information, SAMUEL ISRAEL III, the defendant, was Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer of Bayou Management LLC and, as such, was responsible for the investment management and operations of Bayou.

The Scheme To Defraud

4. During the relevant time period, Bayou sustained trading losses. In order to induce investors to invest in Bayou and to lull existing investors into retaining their investments in Bayou, the defendant and co-conspirators not named herein perpetrated a scheme to defraud investors by disseminating reports and financial statements, among other things, that contained materially false statements and by failing to invest the investors' funds as promised.

Means and Methods of the Conspiracy

5. Among the means and methods by which ISRAEL and co-conspirators not named herein would and did carry out the conspiracy were the following:

a. ISRAEL and a co-conspirator reported fictitious rates of return of the Bayou Hedge Funds in quarterly reports and had those reports mailed to investors.

b. ISRAEL and a co-conspirator reported fictitious rates of return of the Bayou Hedge Funds in weekly newsletters and had those newsletters e-mailed or faxed to investors.

c. ISRAEL and a co-conspirator reported individual investors' inflated accumulated profits in monthly reports and had those reports mailed to investors.

d. ISRAEL and his co-conspirators had annual financial statements mailed to investors that contained, among other misrepresentations: (i) inflated rates of return on trading; (ii) inflated net asset values, and (iii) certifications that Bayou had been audited by a certified public accounting firm known as Richmond-Fairfield Associates.

e. In or about early 1999, a co-conspirator created the phony accounting firm, Richmond-Fairfield Associates, and it conducted no audits.

f. Between in or about the fall of 2003 and in

or about August 2005, ISRAEL and a co-conspirator entered and attempted to enter into private financial transactions using money from the Bayou Hedge Funds without disclosing the nature of those transactions to its investors.

g. From in or about July 1996 through in or about August 2005, ISRAEL and his co-conspirators induced investors to contribute in excess of \$450,000,000 to the Bayou Hedge Funds.

THE CONSPIRACY

6. From in or about July 1996 to in or about August 2005, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, SAMUEL ISRAEL III, the defendant, and co-conspirators not named herein, unlawfully, willfully, and knowingly did combine, conspire, confederate, and agree together and with each other to commit offenses against the United States, to wit: (a) investment adviser fraud, in violation of Title 15, United States Code, Sections 80b-6 and 80b-17; and (b) mail fraud, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1341.

OBJECTS OF THE CONSPIRACY

Investment Adviser Fraud

7. It was a part and object of the conspiracy that SAMUEL ISRAEL III, the defendant, and co-conspirators not named herein, acting as investment advisers with respect to one and more clients and prospective clients in the Bayou Hedge Funds,

unlawfully, willfully, and knowingly, by the use of the mails and means and instrumentalities of interstate commerce, directly and indirectly, did (a) employ devices, schemes, and artifices to defraud clients and prospective clients; (b) engage in transactions, practices, and courses of business which operated as a fraud and deceit upon clients and prospective clients; and (c) engage in acts, practices, and courses of business that were fraudulent, deceptive, and manipulative, in violation of Title 15, United States Code, Sections 80b-6 and 80b-17.

Mail Fraud

8. It was further a part and object of the conspiracy that SAMUEL ISRAEL III, the defendant, and co-conspirators not named herein, unlawfully, willfully, and knowingly, having devised and intending to devise a scheme and artifice to defraud and for obtaining money and property by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, did place and cause to be placed in a post office and authorized depository for mail matter, matters and things to be sent and delivered by the Postal Service, and private and commercial interstate carriers, and did take and receive therefrom such matters and things, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1341.

OVERT ACTS

9. In furtherance of said conspiracy and to effect

the illegal objects thereof, the following overt acts, among others, were committed in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere:

a. At various times from in or about July 1996 through in or about August 2005, ISRAEL traded securities on behalf of Bayou through computers located in Westchester County, New York and at Bayou's offices in Stamford, Connecticut.

b. At various times between July 1996 and August 2005, ISRAEL and co-conspirators not named herein had quarterly and/or monthly reports and annual financial statements mailed to investors located in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere.

c. At various times between in or about 2002 through in or about August 2005, ISRAEL and a co-conspirator not named herein had weekly newsletters e-mailed and faxed to investors located in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere.

d. In or about 1999, a co-conspirator not named herein formed a sham certified public accounting firm named Richmond-Fairfield Associates and maintained an office for Richmond-Fairfield Associates in Manhattan.

e. In annual financial statements for the years 1998 through 2004, ISRAEL and his co-conspirators had Bayou falsely assert that Richmond-Fairfield Associates was an

independent auditor that had audited Bayou and certified its financial statements.

f. From in or about the spring of 2004 through in or about May 2005, ISRAEL attempted to conduct transactions in Europe and the United States using money invested in the Bayou Hedge Funds.

g. In or about April 2005, ISRAEL and a co-conspirator caused the transfer of approximately \$99,191,102 from an account at ODL Securities in London to a Wachovia Bank account in the name of Majestic Capital Management (the "Majestic Account").

h. In or about April 2005, ISRAEL and a co-conspirator caused the transfer of approximately \$810,000 from Bayou's account at Wachovia Bank to the Majestic Account.

i. At various times between in or about May 2003 and in or about August 2005, a co-conspirator invested money contributed to the Bayou Hedge Funds in private placement transactions.

(Title 18, United States Code, Section 371).

COUNT TWO

(Investment Adviser Fraud)

The United States Attorney further charges:

10. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 5 and 9 of this Information are repeated and realleged as if

fully set forth herein.

11. From in or about July 1996 to in or about August 2005, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, SAMUEL ISRAEL III, the defendant, and co-conspirators not named herein, acting as investment advisers with respect to clients and prospective clients in the Bayou hedge funds, unlawfully, willfully, and knowingly, by the use of the mails and means and instrumentalities of interstate commerce, directly and indirectly, did: (a) employ devices, schemes, and artifices to defraud clients and prospective clients; (b) engage in transactions, practices, and courses of business which operated as a fraud and deceit upon clients and prospective clients; and (c) engage in acts, practices, and courses of business that were fraudulent, deceptive and manipulative.

(Title 15, United States Code, Sections 80b-6 and 80b-17; and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2).

COUNT THREE

(Mail Fraud)

The United States Attorney further charges:

12. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 5 and 9 this Information are repeated and realleged as if fully set forth herein.

13. From in or about July 1996 through in or about August 2005, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, SAMUEL ISRAEL III, the defendant, and co-conspirators not named

herein, having devised and intending to devise a scheme and artifice to defraud and to obtain money and property by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises, namely, the scheme set forth above, for the purpose of executing such scheme and artifice and attempting to do so, did place and cause to be placed in a post office and authorized depository for mail matter, matters and things to be sent and delivered by the Postal Service, and private and commercial interstate carriers, and did take and receive therefrom such matters and things, namely, quarterly reports, monthly reports and annual financial statements.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1341 and 2).

FORFEITURE ALLEGATION

14. As the result of committing one or more of the mail fraud and conspiracy offenses in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1341 and 371, alleged in Counts One and Three of this Information, defendant SAMUEL ISRAEL III shall forfeit to the United States pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C) and 28 U.S.C. § 2461, all property, real and personal, that constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to the commission of the offense, including, but not limited to, a sum of money equal to \$450,000,000, representing the amount of proceeds obtained as a result of the mail fraud and conspiracy offenses alleged in Counts One and Three of this Information, for which the defendant

and his co-conspirators are jointly and severally liable. Said sum includes, but is not limited to, all right, title and interest of defendant SAMUEL ISRAEL III in the following, and all property traceable thereto:

a. Approximately \$100,010,673.68 on deposit at Bank of America in the name of the Arizona State Treasurer and referenced as SW 2005-001633;

b. All right, title and interest of the defendant in any entities or partnerships, including but not limited to, IM Partners and IMG LLC, and any and all assets, including bank accounts, held by or for the benefit of such entities or partnerships;

c. Any and all interests in any bank accounts and/or brokerage accounts held by or for the benefit of the defendant.

Substitute Asset Provision

15. If any of the above-described forfeitable property, as a result of any act or omission of the defendant:

(1) cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;

(2) has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third person;

(3) has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court;

(4) has been substantially diminished in value; or

(5) has been commingled with other property which cannot be subdivided without difficulty; it is the intent of the United States, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(p), to seek forfeiture of any other property of said defendant up to the value of the above forfeitable property. (Title 18, United States Code, Sections 981, 1956(c)(7)(A) and 1961(1), and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c)).


MICHAEL J. GARCIA
United States Attorney